



EXHIBIT 9
DATE 01/16/2013

HB 108
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January 16, 2011

TO: Members of the House State Administration Committee
FROM: Bill Roberts, AARP Montana
RE: Opposition to HB 108

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee for the record I am Bill Roberts, a volunteer advocate with AARP Montana, an organization with about 155,000 members in this state. AARP believes that states should have a voter registration system that encourages citizens to participate in voting. We are concerned that HB 108 will make it more difficult for people to vote.

A study conducted by the Brennan Center found that, nearly one in five citizens over 65 lacks a current, government-issued photo ID. Most people prove their eligibility to vote with a driver's license, but people over 65 often give up their license and don't replace it with a state-issued ID.

Furthermore, while an ID itself may be free, voters — especially women — often must purchase copies of birth certificates, marriage licenses, divorce decrees and other documents to show name changes. A free ID is not free due to these costs and the costs accrued by the state that are paid for by taxpayers.

Our current voter ID law works. HB 108 puts into place unnecessary restrictions that will make it more difficult for Montanans to vote. We urge you to oppose HB 108.